

FOREWORD

It is most appropriate that the Centennial of the American Physical Society be marked by a special issue of *Reviews of Modern Physics*. RMP was begun when the American Physical Society was thirty years old, as the Society began its rise to importance on the international scene of physics. Many of the splendid review articles that appeared in RMP have chronicled the development of physics since that time, and several of the distinguished contributors to this volume have authored some of those articles. The forward march of physics continues unabated. There has been some hesitation, however, on looking ahead for the next hundred years—the example of predictions made at the end of the last century should be sufficient to give pause to all but the most determined prognosticators. I will only say that startling new ideas and phenomena will continue to appear, and I hope and expect that the most novel of these will continue to be revealed in *Physical Review* and summarized in *Reviews of Modern Physics*. We are all deeply indebted to Ben Bederson, my predecessor as Editor-in-Chief, for taking on the job of special editor for this issue. He deserves our thanks and gratitude for this splendid volume.

Martin Blume
Editor-in-Chief
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